



# **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
(213) 974-1411

December 2, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## **RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS IN THE MATTER OF THE VIOLENT ASSAULTS IN WEST HOLLYWOOD (ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in total amount of \$10,000, to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to the individual who provided information to law enforcement that led to the arrest and conviction of Vincent Dotson, Larry Walker, and Torwin Sessions who were responsible for the unprovoked violent attacks on Treve Broudy and Edward Ulett on September 1, 2002 in the City of West Hollywood.

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

On Sunday, September 1, 2002, at approximately 11:45 p.m., Treve Broudy and Edward Ulett were attacked and beaten by two men wielding a baseball bat in the 8900 block of Cynthia Street, in the City of West Hollywood.

On September 10, 2002, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, your Board established a \$10,000 reward fund for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for a series of unprovoked violent hate-crime assaults against men based on their real or perceived gay sexual orientation in the City of West Hollywood, which included the September 1, 2002 attack.

On September 24, 2002, Detectives from the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station were contacted by an individual who provided information and the identities of the suspects in the beating of Treve Broudy and Edward Ulett on September 1, 2002. The suspects Vincent Dotson, Larry Walker, and Torwin Sessions were located and arrested on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon.

On October 3, 2002, the District Attorney's office filed counts of assault, attempted robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery against Larry Walker, Torwin Sessions, and Vincent Dotson.

On January 17, 2003, the Los Angeles Superior Court determined that there was sufficient evidence to hold Larry Walker, Torwin Sessions, and Vincent Dotson to answer to the charges brought against them.

On September 26, 2003, after plea bargaining, Larry Walker and Torwin Sessions pled guilty to criminal conspiracy and mayhem and Vincent Dotson pled guilty to criminal conspiracy, mayhem, and taking a vehicle without the owner's consent. The defendants were sentenced to State prison as follows: Mr. Walker was sentenced to 13 years; Mr. Sessions was sentenced to 21 years, and Mr. Dotson was sentenced to 7 years.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department submitted the claim for the \$10,000 reward offered by your Board on behalf of the informant who wishes to remain anonymous. In accordance with provisions of the County Code, your Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code that established procedures for offering cash rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

A panel made up of individuals representing the Sheriff, the Chief Administrative Officer, the County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board reviewed the information provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department recommending the reward be paid to the informant. The panel has recommended that the \$10,000 be awarded to the informant.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the arrest and conviction of the individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life of all citizens.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$2,000 from each member's account.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 - Revenue and Finance relating to rewards.

A notice of the reward was published in the Los Angeles Daily Commerce and the Los Angeles Independent. In addition, the reward notice was posted on the Board of Supervisors' web site. The original filing period to submit a claim to the Executive Office for the reward money expired on February 7, 2003.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no impact on current County services.

Respectfully submitted,



VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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c: District Attorney  
Sheriff  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller